



# New Castle Crier

*The official newsletter of New Castle City*

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## Council approves City-wide recycling program

At a special meeting on October 30, City Council members unanimously approved a new City-wide program for recycling. This was accomplished by the City approving a contract with the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA).

The program will be effective as of the beginning of 2008, and is available to all households within the New Castle City limits. Pickup of recyclables will occur every other week on Tuesdays, beginning on January 8.

All recyclable materials will be placed in one container – a cart – which looks like a wheeled-trash can, printed with the DSWA logo.

Homeowners can choose from two cart sizes, with capacities and dimensions in inches as follows:

- 35-Gallon  
39.13H x 20.20W x 22.98D
- 65-Gallon  
40.58H x 26.70W x 28.11D

To see the difference in the two cart sizes, see both carts on display at the City Administration offices at 220 Delaware Street.

This program, offered through the City, is funded by tax dollars and is much more economical than the price for individual households signing up directly for recycling with DSWA. To participate in the program, homeowners only need to complete a simple form (see below) and return it either in person or by mail to the City Administration offices at 220 Delaware Street. Forms will also be accepted via fax at 322-9814 or via e-mail sent to: [kburgmuller@NewCastleCity.org](mailto:kburgmuller@NewCastleCity.org).

Carts will be delivered by the DSWA at the end of December or beginning of January.

See the back page for items not collected for recycling. Items permitted for collection in recycling include:

- Newspapers and phonebooks;
- Junk mail, including office paper, magazines, catalogs, newspaper inserts, window envelopes and flyers;
- Plastic grocery bags;
- Paperboard, including six-pack holders, cereal and shoe boxes;

- Flattened corrugated cardboard, including storage boxes and those from appliances;\*
- Narrow-neck plastic bottles, including milk jugs, soda bottles, bottles for shampoos and detergents (discard lids);\*\*
- Cans, including aluminum, steel and empty aerosols;\*
- Glass, including clear, brown and green, however restricted to only containers which held either food or beverages (discard lids).\*

\*Cardboard which does not fit in the cart may be bundled, tied and placed beside the cart for pickup.

\*\*Labels on these items are OK.

### Important Recycling Tips

***Rinse clean all recyclables which contained food or beverages.*** This will deter insects, rodents or other animals from being attracted to recycle carts. This is especially important given the schedule of every other week pickup. To maximize cart capacity, crush plastics and aluminum cans so they take up less space.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (*must be within City limits*) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cart Size (check one): ☐ 35 Gallon ☐ 65 Gallon

☐ I am a current DSWA

☐ N/A ☐ customer and already have a cart

Return to City offices at 220 Delaware Street, or fax to 322-9814, or e-mail to [kburgmuller@NewCastleCity.org](mailto:kburgmuller@NewCastleCity.org). Completed forms may be left anytime at the City offices in the drop box in the front door.

**Support a great cause and snag a super holiday gift!**  
**211 Years of Fire**  
**Fighting in New Castle**  
**...a book commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Good-Will Fire Company.**  
**Just \$49 and on sale now at the Old Library Museum on East 3rd Street, Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4 p.m.**

# The yard waste ban — it's back!

On January 24, Delaware's yard waste ban takes effect, again. This topic was covered extensively in previously issues of the *New Castle Crier* newsletter last year in February, March and April (go to [www.NewCastleCity.org/newsletter.html](http://www.NewCastleCity.org/newsletter.html) to view articles).

The ban was enacted and effective early last year, however in March, the General Assembly approved a measure which delayed the ban until early 2008.

Yard waste is defined as grass clippings, leaves, brush and branches up to six-inches in diameter, dirt free garden debris and landscape trimmings. This also includes Christmas trees, wreaths and garland.

Currently, the City collects yard waste seasonally (approximately April through November) each Wednesday and transports it to a recycling area. Yard waste will continue to be picked up on Wednesdays *only*.

***Positively no mixture of yard waste with household trash will be***

***collected.*** Any yard waste mixed in with trash will be left curbside. ***All yard waste must be kept separate from household trash.***

As a hauler of yard waste and municipal trash, the City is liable for any fines levied by Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) for hauling yard waste mixed with municipal trash to the landfill. The City cannot afford to risk fines, or worse, the loss of our hauling permit with DNREC and the Delaware Solid Waste Authority.

***For this reason, it is imperative that all residents separate all yard waste from the regular trash.*** Violators will be issued citations and fined in accordance with provisions of the City Code.

The City will provide information on the ban and its impact on operations in future newsletters and on the City Web site at: [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org).

More information on the yard waste ban is available on the DNREC Web site at: [www.dnrec.delaware.gov/yardwaste](http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/yardwaste).

## FOIA forum planned

The City Council will host a forum concerning the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) on Dec. 5th at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall (201 Delaware St.). Sen. Karen Peterson will speak. Sen. Peterson is the sponsor of Senate Bill 4 aimed at broadening FOIA to cover the General Assembly.

Sen. Dori Connor, whose Senate District covers much of the City of New Castle, is a co-sponsor of the bill and will also speak. A question and answer period will follow.

## Thanks from MSC

On Saturday, November 10, the Municipal Services Commission (MSC), with the help of Dave Majewski and St. Peter's Sports Program, delivered 2,500 CFL (compact florescent light) bulbs to its residential customers, in an effort to help conserve energy and protect our environment.

With the help of 40 eager and energetic volunteers, Dave was able to orchestrate and deliver bags with two bulbs to every residential door in less than two and a half hours. The Citizen's Volunteer Police of New Castle also helped deliver bulbs and provided assistance and safety for the participants.

Response from customers has been extremely positive. The MSC wishes to thank all those that made the delivery of these bulbs a success.

The MSC would like to remind everyone that ***"You CAN Make A Difference"*** in protecting our environment and saving energy through the use of compact florescent bulbs.

Additional bulbs can be purchased at cost while supplies last at the MSC office, 216 Chestnut St., telephone 323-2330.

## Do not recycle these items!

The following items are not currently collected as recyclables. Please discard these items and do not place them in recycle carts for collection.

- Butter tubs or yogurt containers;
- Foil items, including pie pans;
- Paint cans;
- Scrap aluminum;
- Lawn chairs;
- Siding and doors;
- Glass: windows, mirrors, drinking or ceramic;
- Corningware or Pyrex;
- Paperback books;
- Paper bags.

## Please Note!

City Offices will be ***CLOSED*** and ***No Trash Pickup*** will occur for the holidays on Monday & Tuesday, December 24 & 25 and Tuesday, January 1.

The New Castle City Elected Officials and Employees wish all our citizens a safe and happy holiday season.